(c) whether the Government propose to take steps to meet the requirement of the main battle Tank T-72 through speedy upgradation at Avadi factory; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b) The orders from the Army on Heavy Vehicle Factory, Avadi for the production of T-72 tanks are for about 80% of the capacity for which manpower was sanctioned. In addition, overhaul of T-72 tanks is being progressively stepped up to optimise capacity utilisation of available infrastructure.

(c) and (d) Steps are being taken to increase production at the factory to meet the projected increased requirement within the likely increase in budget.

Infant Mortality in Rajasthan

237. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are aware of the large scale infant mortality in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the action taken to check infant mortality; and

(c) the proposal received from Rajasthan Government to improve and augment the existing Family Welfare Programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The provisional estimates of Infant Mortality Rate for the year 1995 for Rajasthan and India are 85 and 74 per 1000 live births respectively as per the Sample Registration System.

(b) Immunisation, control of Diarrhoeal diseases and acute respiratory infections, essential newborn care and prophylaxis against Vitamin A deficiency are being implemented to check infant mortality.

(c) A State Implementation Plan for augmenting Reproductive and Child Health Services from Government of Rajasthan is under consideration of Government of India. Approval and funding is being secured under World Bank RCH project expected to be operational from July, 97.

New CGHS Hospitals or Dispensaries

238. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up new hospitals and dispensaries in Delhi and other states under the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS);

(b) if so, the norms prescribed for setting up of new CGHS hospitals and dispensaries;

(c) the number of dispensaries and hospitals proposed to be set up under CGH scheme in different States and in New Delhi during ninth five year plan; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has a proposal for setting up new dispensaries under CGHS in and outside Delhi as per prescribed norms. There is also a proposal for setting up a hospital at Hyderabad under CGHS in collaboration with the Defence Research Development Organisation of the Ministry of Defence.

(b) For setting up a new CGHS Dispensary, in a CGHS covered city, as per prescribed norm, there should be 2,500 Central Government employees/pensioners in the particular area where the CGHS dispensary is to be set up. For extending CGHS facilities to a new city, there should be at least 7,500 Government employees/pensioners eligible for CGHS facility in that particular city.

(c) and (d) There is a proposal for extension of CGHS facilities to Chandigarh, Bhopal and Shillong, opening of more allopathic dispensaries in existing CGHS covered cities, bifurcation of heavily loaded dispensaries, etc., for inclusion in the Ninth Five Year Plan.

Right to Education

239. SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM' : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to make 'education' a justifiable fundamental right under the Constitution;

(b) if so, the time by which the enactment is likely to be brought before the House; and

(c) the salient features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) : The Common Minimum Programme of the United Front Government resolves to make the right to free and compulsory elementary education a Fundamental Right and to enforce it through suitable statutory measures. Government appointed a Committee of State Education Ministers to consider the implications of the proposal. The Committee has since submitted its report which is under examination.